

TENT-LIFE AT ROUND LAKE

FRATERNAL CAMP-MEETING OF ALL
BRANCHES OF METHODISM.

BROAD AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE MEETING—

ITS EXTENT AND THE PROSPECTS OF ITS SUCCESS—PREPARATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE AND ARE MAKING—ARRIVALS AND OPENING SERVICES. [FROM THE SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

ROUND LAKE, July 8.—With plentiful sunshine, with large and fast-increasing attendance, and with weather which makes life a great deal more comfortable than dwelling in cities, the great fraternal camp-meeting at Round Lake began to-day. The peculiar feature of this gathering is that it assembles representatives from all branches of Methodism in the United States and Canada. No attempt at so broad and liberal an encampment has been made for thirty years, but the generous response of men of mark in the various divisions of Methodist belief gave assurance of the success of the enterprise several weeks ago. The number

one orders for tents, which have been pouring in upon the Round Lake Camp-Meeting Association, made it certain that there would be a great multitude present, and the number and diversity of the places in various sections from which those applications came, showed that the meeting would be a most representative one. It is common in the numbers of constant worshippers and in variety of composition, this camp-meeting will far surpass any previous effort of the kind in this country. Congregations of 5,000 and 7,000 have been seen at Round Lake, and of course the throngs of visitors upon the grounds and of the persons in tents who were absent from the particular service at which computations were made, would estimate the attendance at the great day of past summer as being probably 15,000. It is a matter of course that the Bishop James that attendance here at the height of the meeting will rise to 15,000, and may run up to 20,000.

Bishop Laid presides over this camp-meeting, taking an office which has been very unusual with bishops in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He says that the camp-meeting is not so much national or international, although the Canadian churches take part—as it is a fraternal camp-meeting, intended to bring together in heartiest harmony and fellowship the whole body of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, the Methodist Episcopal Church of Canada, the Wesleyan Church of Canada, the Protestant Methodist Church, the Free Methodist Church, the United Brethren of Christ, the Abriht Church and three colored churches, the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, and the colored churches of America. The Colored Methodist Episcopal Church branches out from the West, with some churches in Pennsylvania, and the members of the Abriht Church are in the main, in Pennsylvania and Ohio.

ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS MADE FOR THE

MEETING.

The Round Lake Camp-Meeting Association has made diligent preparation for enamping the coming host. They have much enlarged their grounds by the purchase of the Corp farm, on the north and east of their former property, giving in all 120 acres; and 15 acres have been bought on the west side of the railroad track. They own 150 tents, and have already obtained about 350 additional tents, most of which have been set up, while more are to come. The railway company has built a commodious and comfortable station-house, and the Association has erected several new buildings for offices, cottages,

As before this season there were 29 cottages on the grounds, and several have been added for this season. There are some cozy little private cottages here, the occupation of which is not confined to camp-meeting weeks, their owners finding Summer recreation in this pleasant grove. The place has certain noteworthy attractions for spending vacation days in simple fashion. The trees of the grove in variety, symmetry, and beauty of foliage are remarkable. The grounds are neatly laid out with many conveniences, and the lake is a charming piece of water, grided with verdure and embosomed in a belt of green woods. In fishing and boating it affords

prey of the mosquitoes, but its pleasure have on a good deal of enjoyment, but its pleasure have on a sharp drawback. There is enough marshy ground around it to breed a plague of the most annoying and penetrating mosquitoes. There are actual clouds of them at certain times about the water, but fortunately only detachments reach the camp ground, or the nights here would be intolerable. But in the grove also there are minor defects. The ground on which the tents stand is so nearly level that complete drainage is difficult, and after a heavy rain there are unpleasant exhalations, and the earth does not dry up with comfortable quickness. The Association is in

great taste to improve the grounds that in its eagerness for funds it sets some charges much too high. For the use of very cheap furniture in the tents and cottages, of which furniture it has an ample supply—the Association charges excessive prices, and requires as much for the use of a single day as for the entire fortnight of the camp-meeting. The tents and cottages are set so closely together as to appear to glow like other uncomfortable huts, and a few of the avenues and roads with their dwellings are somewhat narrow and blind. But the place of open-air congregation is very neatly and completely furnished, well lighted, and admirable in every respect, while the outlying parts of the Association grounds are very pleasant.

The whole place has had a stirring look and has been lively with busy sounds to-day. The trains have each brought a considerable number, and this evening there are over 1,500 people in the encampment. This is an unprecedented number for an opening day at Round Lake. The labor of raising tents and flooring and furnishing the place has been done by the Association and the newcomers busy during the day. The officers of the Association have been hard pushed almost every moment with counts of questions, applications, and inquiries. The men have been patient and waited with a cheerful patience, showing an unflinching courtesy and a prompt good will, beside unusual abilities for

The greater part of the tents, about six in which there has been so much activity to-day, are small; but there are several of good proportions. The places of assembly for a society or church, has been begun this year at this place, although it has been in vogue for a long time at Sterling and in the surrounding places. The new erection building, the structure of which has here have been entirely of canvas, and the scattering of members of societies in their family tents in different parts of the grounds, with the numerous religious meetings, have been the society-meetings, which are said to have accomplished so much good at other encampments. The Washington M. S. Church of West Troy

Only a comparatively small advance guard of preachers, who will be here after they have performed the duty of winning Sabotee, are now shown the

The duties of the members of the Board of Christian Missions of the New York and Bishop Kavanagh of Kentucky, of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and Bishops Doaggett of Richmond, Simpson of Philadelphia and J. T. Peck will come within a day or two; Bishops Foster of Cincinnati and Hoyer of Atlanta are expected to be here; and the Rev. Dr. J. H. H. Smith of Philadelphia and Scott may come. Ex-President Cummings of Wesleyan University, the Rev. Dr. T. B. Sargent of Baltimore, Anson Green of Toronto, T. H. Pearce of New York, and the Rev. Dr. J. H. H. Smith of Philadelphia are expected to be here. The Rev. Dr. J. H. H. Smith of Philadelphia is expected to be here. The Rev. Dr. J. H. H. Smith of Philadelphia is expected to be here.

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Rev. Messrs. McGilligan and R. G. Adams, Troy Congregation; O. S. Rogers, American Bible Society; D. W. Gates, Rochester; L. Marshall, Presiding Elder; J. W. Garrison, Kingston; F. Bailey, Troy Conference; J. C. Goran, District, N. Y.; S. B. Leach, Baltimore; and C. F. Noble, Troy.

OPENING MEETING OF THE ENCAMPMENT.

The opening services of the camp-meeting were held in the evening in the great tent of the Association. The congregation was large and earnest, but their devotion was much hindered by the persistent assaults of many mosquitoes. Prayer was offered by Bishop Kavanaugh.